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2. (Amended) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein the isolated DNA molecule has a complement that hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 in a hybridization medium comprising 500 mM NaPO₄ and 7.0% SDS at 65°C following an effective amount of time and remains hybridized after exposure to a wash medium comprising 1X SSC and 0.1% SDS at 65°C for an effective amount of time.

3. (Amended) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule is a DNA molecule encoding a protein comprising the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 2.

4. (Amended) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule is a DNA molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

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6. (Amended) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule is complementary to DNA molecules (a), (b), or (c).

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8. (Amended) The expression vector according to claim 7, wherein the DNA molecule is in sense orientation.

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11. (Amended) The host cell according to claim 9, wherein the DNA molecule is present within an expression vector.

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13. (Amended) The transgenic plant according to claim 12, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprouts, beet, parsnip, turnip, cauliflower, broccoli, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

a4 16. (Amended) The transgenic plant seed according to claim 15, wherein the plant seed is selected from the group consisting of seeds from alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprouts, beet, parsnip, turnip, cauliflower, broccoli, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

a7 18. (Amended) A cutting which has been removed from a transgenic plant according to claim 12, wherein the cutting is characterized by greater resistance to desiccation as compared to a cutting removed from a non-transgenic plant.

Please add new claims 90 and 91 as follows:

a8 90. (New) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein the *Xanthomonas* species is a strain of *Xanthomonas campestris*.

91. (New) The isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein the *Xanthomonas* species is a strain of *Xanthomonas oryzae*.